#### 107TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

### H.R.812

To establish the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado, and for other purposes.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 1, 2001

Mr. Udall of Colorado (for himself, Mr. Hefley, Ms. Degette, Mr. Tancredo, and Mr. Schaffer) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

### A BILL

To establish the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Rocky Flats National
- 5 Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.
- 7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

- The Federal Government, through the (1)Atomic Energy Commission, acquired Rocky Flats in 1951 and began operations there in 1952. The site remains a Department of Energy facility. Since 1992, the mission of Rocky Flats has changed from the production of nuclear weapons components to cleanup and closure in a manner that is safe, envi-ronmentally and socially responsible, physically se-cure, and cost-effective.
  - (2) The site has generally remained undisturbed since its acquisition by the Federal Government.
  - (3) The State of Colorado is experiencing increasing growth and development, especially in the metropolitan Denver Front Range area in the vicinity of Rocky Flats. This growth and development reduces the amount of open space and thereby diminishes for many metropolitan Denver communities the vistas of the striking Front Range mountain backdrop.
  - (4) Some areas of the site currently contain contamination and will require further remediation. The national interest requires that the ongoing cleanup and closure of the entire site be completed safely, effectively, and without unnecessary delay and that the site thereafter be retained by the

- United States and managed so as to preserve its value for open space and wildlife habitat.
- 3 (5) Rocky Flats provides habitat for many wild4 life species, including a number of threatened species
  5 and endangered species, and is marked by the pres6 ence of rare xeric tallgrass prairie plant commu7 nities. Establishing the site as a unit of the National
  8 Wildlife Refuge System will promote the preserva9 tion and enhancement of these resources for present
  10 and future generations.
- 11 (b) Purpose.—The purpose of this Act is to provide 12 for the establishment of Rocky Flats as a national wildlife 13 refuge while creating a process for public input on refuge 14 management and ensuring that the site is thoroughly and 15 completely cleaned up.

#### 16 SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

- 17 In this Act:
- 18 (1)CLEANUP AND CLOSURE.—The 19 "cleanup and closure" means the remedial actions 20 and decommissioning activities being undertaken at 21 Rocky Flats by the Department of Energy under the 22 1996 Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement, the closure 23 plans and baselines, and any other relevant docu-24 ments or requirements.

1	(2) Coalition.—The term "Coalition" means
2	the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments es-
3	tablished by the Intergovernmental Agreement,
4	dated February 16, 1999, among—
5	(A) the city of Arvada, Colorado;
6	(B) the city of Boulder, Colorado;
7	(C) the city of Broomfield, Colorado;
8	(D) the city of Westminster, Colorado;
9	(E) the town of Superior, Colorado;
10	(F) Boulder County, Colorado;
11	(G) Jefferson County, Colorado.
12	(3) Hazardous substance.—The term "haz-
13	ardous substance" has the meaning given the term
14	under section 101 of the Comprehensive Environ-
15	mental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
16	of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
17	(4) POLLUTANT OR CONTAMINANT.—The term
18	"pollutant or contaminant" has the meaning given
19	the term under section 101 of the Comprehensive
20	Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liabil-
21	ity Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).
22	(5) Refuge.—The term "refuge" means the
23	Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge established
24	under section 7.

1	(6) RESPONSE ACTION.—The term "response
2	action" has the meaning given the term "response"
3	under section 101 of the Comprehensive Environ-
4	mental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
5	of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601) or any other similar pro-
6	vision under State law.
7	(7) RFCA.—The term "RFCA" means the
8	Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement, an intergovern-
9	mental agreement, dated July 19, 1996, among—
10	(A) the Department of Energy;
11	(B) the Environmental Protection Agency;
12	and
13	(C) the Department of Public Health and
14	Environment of the State of Colorado.
15	(8) Rocky flats.—The term "Rocky Flats"
16	means the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology
17	Site, Colorado, a defense nuclear facility, as depicted
18	on the map entitled "Rocky Flats Environmental
19	Technology Site", dated July 15, 1998.
20	(9) Rocky flats trustees.—The term
21	"Rocky Flats Trustees" means the Federal and
22	State of Colorado entities that have been identified
23	as trustees for the Rocky Flats under section

107(f)(2) of the Comprehensive, Environmental Re-

- 1 sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42)
- 2 U.S.C. 9607(f)(1)).
- 3 (10) Secretary.—The term "Secretary"
- 4 means the Secretary of Energy.

#### 5 SEC. 4. FUTURE OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT.

- 6 (a) Federal Ownership.—Unless the Congress
- 7 provides otherwise in an Act enacted after the date of the
- 8 enactment of this Act, all right, title, and interest of the
- 9 United States, held on or acquired after the date of the
- 10 enactment of this Act, to lands within the boundaries of
- 11 Rocky Flats shall be retained by the United States.
- 12 (b) LINDSAY RANCH.—The structures that comprise
- 13 the former Lindsay Ranch homestead site in the Rock
- 14 Creek Reserve area of the buffer zone as depicted on the
- 15 map referred to in section 3(8) shall be permanently pre-
- 16 served and maintained in accordance with the National
- 17 Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).
- 18 (c) Prohibition Against Annexation.—The Sec-
- 19 retary of the Interior shall not allow the annexation of
- 20 land within the refuge by any unit of local government.
- 21 (d) Prohibition Against Through Roads.—Ex-
- 22 cept as provided in subsection (e), no public road shall
- 23 be constructed through Rocky Flats.
- 24 (e) Transportation Right-of-Way.—
- 25 (1) IN GENERAL.—

1	(A) AVAILABILITY OF LAND.—On submis-
2	sion of an application meeting each of the con-
3	ditions specified in paragraph (2), the Secretary
4	and the Secretary of the Interior shall make
5	available land along the eastern boundary of
6	Rocky Flats for the sole purpose of transpor-
7	tation improvements along Indiana Street.
8	(B) Boundaries.—Land made available
9	under this paragraph may not extend more
10	than 300 feet from the west edge of the Indiana
11	Street right-of-way, as that right-of-way exists
12	as of the date of enactment of this Act.
13	(C) EASEMENT OR SALE.—Land may be
14	made available under this paragraph by ease-
15	ment or sale to 1 or more appropriate entities.
16	(D) COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE
17	LAW.—Any action under this paragraph shall
18	be taken in compliance with applicable law.
19	(2) Conditions.—An application for land
20	under this subsection may be submitted by any
21	county, city, or other political subdivision of the
22	State of Colorado and shall include documentation
23	demonstrating that—
24	(A) the transportation project is con-
25	structed so as to minimize adverse impacts on

the management of Rocky Flats as a wildlife
refuge; and

3 (B) the transportation project is included 4 in the Regional Transportation Plan of the 5 Metropolitan Planning Organization for the 6 Denver metropolitan area designated under 49 7 U.S.C. 5303 et seq.

## 8 SEC. 5. TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES 9 AND JURISDICTION OVER ROCKY FLATS.

#### (a) In General.—

(1) Memorandum of understanding.—No later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register a draft Memorandum of Understanding under which the Secretary shall transfer to the Secretary of the Interior administrative jurisdiction over Rocky Flats. This memorandum of understanding shall provide for the timing of the transfer, the division of responsibilities between the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior for the period ending on the date of the transfer, and an appropriate allocation of costs and personnel to the Secretary of the Interior, except that the Memorandum of Understanding shall not result in any reduction in funds available to the Sec-

- 1 retary for cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats. No 2 later than 18 months after the date of enactment of 3 this Act, the Secretary and Secretary of the Interior shall finalize and implement this memorandum of 5 understanding. 6 (2) Exclusions.—The transfer under para-7 graph (1) shall not include any property or facility 8 over which the Secretary retains jurisdiction, author-9 ity, and control under subsection (b)(1). 10 (3) CONDITION.—The transfer under paragraph
  - (3) CONDITION.—The transfer under paragraph (1) shall occur no sooner than the signing by the Environmental Protection Agency's Regional Administrator for Region VIII of the Final On-site Record of Decision for Rocky Flats and no later than 10 business days after such signing.
    - (4) Cost; improvements.—The transfer—
- 17 (A) shall be completed without cost to the 18 Secretary of the Interior; and
- 19 (B) may include such buildings or other 20 improvements as the Secretary of the Interior 21 may request in writing for refuge management 22 purposes.
- 23 (b) Property and Facilities Excluded From24 Transfers.—

12

13

14

15

- (1) In General.—The Secretary shall retain jurisdiction, authority, and control over all real property and facilities at Rocky Flats that are to be used for—
  - (A) any necessary and appropriate longterm operation and maintenance facilities to intercept, treat, and control any radionuclide or other hazardous substance, pollutant, or other contaminant; or
  - (B) any other purpose related to a response action or any other action that is required to be carried out at Rocky Flats.
  - (2) Consultation.—The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Colorado on the identification of all property to be retained under this subsection to ensure the continuing effectiveness of response actions. The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior on the management of the retained property to minimize any conflict between management of property transferred to the Secretary of the Interior and that retained by the Secretary for response actions. However, in the case of any such conflict, im-

- plementation and maintenance of the response action shall take priority.
  - (3) Access.—As a condition of the transfer under subsection (a), the Secretary shall be provided such easements and access as may be reasonably required to carry out any obligation or address any other liability.

#### (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—On completion of the transfer under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior shall administer Rocky Flats in accordance with this Act subject to—
  - (A) any response action or institutional control at Rocky Flats carried out by or under the authority of the Secretary under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.); and
  - (B) any other action required under any other Federal or State law to be carried out by or under the authority of the Secretary.
- (2) CONFLICT.—In case of any conflict between management of Rocky Flats by the Secretary of the Interior and the conduct of any response action or other action described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of

- paragraph (1), the response action or other action
  shall take priority.
- 3 (3) CONTINUING ACTIONS.—Except as provided 4 in paragraph (1), nothing in this subsection affects 5 any response action or other action initiated at 6 Rocky Flats on or before the date of the transfer 7 under subsection (a).
- (4) Liability.—The Secretary shall retain any obligation or other liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), or any other applicable provision of law for land transferred under subsection (a).

# 14 SEC. 6. CONTINUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP 15 AND CLOSURE.

- 16 (a) Ongoing Cleanup and Closure.—The Sec-17 retary shall continue to carry out to completion cleanup 18 and closure at Rocky Flats. Nothing in this Act, and no 19 actions taken under this Act, shall be construed to restrict 20 the Secretary from employing new cleanup technologies 21 that may become available.
- 22 (b) Rules of Construction.—
- 23 (1) OBLIGATIONS, LIABILITY, AND RFCA, GEN-24 ERALLY.—Nothing in this Act, and no action taken 25 under this Act, shall relieve the Secretary, the Ad-

- ministrator of the Environmental Protection Agency,
  or any other person from any obligation or other liability with respect to Rocky Flats under the RFCA
  or any applicable Federal or State law. Nothing in
  this Act impairs or alters any provision of the
  RFCA.
  - (2) Degree of Cleanup.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect the degree of cleanup and closure at Rocky Flats required under the RFCA or any Federal or State law.
    - (3) LEVEL OF CLEANUP.—(A) The requirements of this Act for establishment and management of Rocky Flats as a national wildlife refuge shall not affect the level of cleanup and closure.
  - (B) The Secretary is required to conduct cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats to the levels hereafter established for soil, water, and other media following a thorough review by the parties to the RFCA and the public (including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested government agencies) of the appropriateness of the interim levels in the RFCA.
  - (4) FEDERAL OBLIGATION TO CONTROL CONTAMINATION.—Nothing in this Act, and no actions

- 1 taken under this Act, shall affect any long-term obli-
- 2 gation of the United States for funding, construc-
- 3 tion, monitoring, or operation and maintenance of
- 4 any necessary and appropriate intercept and treat-
- 5 ment facilities or any other measures to control con-
- 6 tamination.
- 7 (c) Payment of Response Action Costs.—Noth-
- 8 ing in this Act affects the obligation of a Federal depart-
- 9 ment or agency that had or has operations at Rocky Flats
- 10 resulting in the release or threatened release of a haz-
- 11 ardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant to pay the
- 12 costs of response actions carried out to abate the release
- 13 of, or clean up, the hazardous substance, pollutant, or con-
- 14 taminant.
- 15 (d) Consultation.—In carrying out a response ac-
- 16 tion at Rocky Flats, the Secretary shall consult with the
- 17 Secretary of the Interior to ensure that the response ac-
- 18 tion is carried out in a manner that, while not impairing
- 19 attainment of the purpose of the response action, mini-
- 20 mizes to the extent practicable, adverse impacts on the
- 21 refuge.
- 22 SEC. 7. ROCKY FLATS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.
- 23 (a) Establishment.—Not later than 30 days after
- 24 the transfer of jurisdiction under section 5(a)(3), the Sec-
- 25 retary of the Interior shall establish at Rocky Flats a na-

1	tional wildlife refuge to be known as the "Rocky Flats Na-
2	tional Wildlife Refuge".
3	(b) Composition.—The refuge shall consist of the
4	real property transferred under section $5(a)(1)$ .
5	(c) Notice.—The Secretary of the Interior shall pub-
6	lish in the Federal Register a notice of the establishment
7	of the refuge.
8	(d) Administration and Purposes.—
9	(1) In General.—The Secretary of the Inte-
10	rior shall manage the refuge in accordance with all
11	applicable provisions of law, including this Act and
12	the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration
13	Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.), including the
14	purposes specified in that Act.
15	(2) Purposes.—To the extent consistent with
16	applicable provisions of law, the refuge shall be man-
17	aged for the purposes of—
18	(A) restoring and preserving native eco-
19	systems;
20	(B) providing habitat for and population
21	management of native plants and migratory
22	and resident wildlife;
23	(C) conserving threatened species and en-
24	dangered species (including species that are

- candidates for listing under the Endangered
  Species Act of 1973);
- 3 (D) providing opportunities for compatible 4 environmental scientific research; and
- 5 (E) providing the public with opportunities 6 for compatible wildlife-dependent outdoor rec-7 reational and educational activities.

#### 8 SEC. 8. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT.

#### (a) In General.—

- (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, in developing plans for the management of fish and wildlife and public use of the refuge, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary, the members of the Coalition, the Governor of the State of Colorado, and the Rocky Flats trustees, shall establish a process for involvement of the public and local communities to accomplish the purposes and objectives of this section.
- (2) OTHER PARTICIPANTS.—In addition to the entities identified in paragraph (1), the public involvement process shall include the opportunity for direct involvement of entities not presently members of the Coalition, including the Rocky Flats Citizens'

- 1 Advisory Board and the cities in Colorado of Thorn-2 ton, Northglenn, Golden, Louisville, and Lafayette.
  - (3) Dissolution of the coalition.—In the event that the Coalition dissolves, or any Coalition member chooses to leave the Coalition during the public involvement process outlined in this section, the public involvement process under this section shall continue and an opportunity shall be provided to each entity comprising the Coalition on September 1, 2000, for direct involvement in the public-participation process.
    - (4) Purposes.—The public involvement process developed under paragraph (1) shall provide input and make recommendations to the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior on the following:
      - (A) The long-term management of the refuge consistent with the refuge purposes identified in section 7(d) of this Act and the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.).
      - (B) The identification of any land referred to in section 4(e) that could be made available for transportation purposes.
  - (C) The potential for leasing any land on Rocky Flats for the National Renewable Energy

Laboratory to carry out projects related to the 1 2 National Wind Technology Center. 3 (D) The characteristics and configuration 4 of any perimeter fencing that may be necessary, 5 appropriate or compatible for cleanup and clo-6 sure, refuge, or other purposes. 7 (E) The feasibility of locating, and poten-8 tial location for, a visitor and education center 9 at the refuge. 10 (F) The establishment of a Rocky Flats 11 museum described in section 10. 12 (G) Any other issues relevant to the site. 13 (5) Report.—Not later than 3 years after the 14 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the 15 Interior shall submit to the Congress a report out-16 lining the conclusions of the public involvement proc-17 ess and, to the degree that any input or rec-18 ommendations from the public involvement process 19 were not accepted, clearly stating the reasons for not 20 accepting such input or recommendations.

#### 21 SEC. 9. PROPERTY RIGHTS.

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection 23 (c), nothing in this Act limits any valid, existing property 24 rights at Rocky Flats which are owned by any party. Such 25 property rights include, but are not limited to—

- 1 (1) mineral rights;
- 2 (2) water rights and easements related thereto;
- 3 and
- 4 (3) facilities and rights-of-way for utilities.
- 5 (b) Access.—Except as provided in subsection (c),
- 6 nothing in this Act shall affect any right of an owner of
- 7 property rights described in subsection (a) to access to the
- 8 owner's property.
- 9 (c) Reasonable Conditions.—The Secretary or
- 10 Secretary of the Interior may impose such reasonable con-
- 11 ditions on access to the property rights referred to in this
- 12 section as may be necessary and appropriate for the clean-
- 13 up and closure of Rocky Flats and for the management
- 14 of the refuge. Nothing in this Act shall affect any other
- 15 applicable Federal, State, or local law or regulation related
- 16 to the use, development, and management of property
- 17 rights described in subsection (a). Nothing in this sub-
- 18 section shall preclude the exercise of any existing access
- 19 right necessary to perfect or maintain an existing water
- 20 right.
- 21 (d) Purchase of Mineral Rights.—The Sec-
- 22 retary shall seek to acquire any and all mineral rights at
- 23 Rocky Flats through donation or through purchase or ex-
- 24 change for fair market value from willing sellers. The Sec-
- 25 retary or the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to use

1	funds specifically provided by the Congress to acquire such
2	mineral rights, but no funds appropriated for cleanup and
3	closure of Rocky Flats may be used for such acquisition.
4	(e) Utility Extension.—The Secretary or the Sec-
5	retary of the Interior may allow not more than one exten-
6	sion from an existing utility right-of-way on Rocky Flats,
7	if necessary. Such extension, if any, shall be subject to
8	the conditions in subsection (c).
9	(f) Easement Surveys.—
10	(1) In general.—Until the date that is 180
11	days after the date of enactment of this Act, any en-
12	tity that possesses any decreed water right or pre-
13	scriptive easement related to lands at Rocky Flats
14	shall be entitled to carry out such surveys at Rocky
15	Flats as may be necessary to perfect any such right
16	or easement.
17	(2) Limitation on conditions.—Activities
18	pursuant to paragraph (1)—
19	(A) until the transfer of management re-
20	sponsibilities pursuant to section 5(a)(3), shall
21	be subject only to such conditions as the Sec-
22	retary of Energy may impose in order to mini-
23	mize interference with the cleanup and closure
24	of Rocky Flats; and

1 (B) after such transfer, shall be subject 2 only to such conditions as the Secretary of the 3 Interior may impose in order to minimize ad-4 verse effects on management of the refuge.

#### 5 SEC. 10. ROCKY FLATS MUSEUM.

- 6 (a) In General.—In order to commemorate the con-
- 7 tribution that Rocky Flats and its worker force provided
- 8 to the winning of the cold war and the impact it has had
- 9 on the nearby communities and the State of Colorado, the
- 10 Secretary is authorized to establish a Rocky Flats Mu-
- 11 seum.
- 12 (b) Location.—The Rocky Flats Museum to be es-
- 13 tablished under subsection (a) shall be located in the city
- 14 of Arvada, unless after compliance with subsection (c) the
- 15 Secretary determines otherwise.
- 16 (c) Study.—The Secretary shall consult with the city
- 17 of Arvada, other local communities, and the Colorado
- 18 State Historical Society on the development of the mu-
- 19 seum, its siting, and any other issues relevant to its devel-
- 20 opment and construction.
- 21 (d) Report.—Not later than 3 years after the date
- 22 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in coordination
- 23 with the city of Arvada, Colorado, shall submit a report
- 24 to the Congress regarding the costs associated with the

- 1 construction of the museum and any other relevant issues
- 2 to its construction and development.

#### 3 SEC. 11. FUNDING.

- 4 Beginning at the time of submission of the first Pres-
- 5 idential budget proposal submitted under section 1105(a)
- 6 of title 31, United States Code, after the date of enact-
- 7 ment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of the
- 8 Interior shall annually inform the Committee on Appro-
- 9 priations and the Committee on Resources of the House
- 10 of Representatives and appropriate Committees of the
- 11 Senate as to the costs incurred in implementing this Act
- 12 during the preceding fiscal year and the funds required
- 13 to implement this Act during the current and subsequent
- 14 fiscal years.

 $\bigcirc$